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FLD-268

CENTRAL INTELLIGENCE AGENCY

REPORT NO

## INFORMATION REPORT

CD NO

25X1A

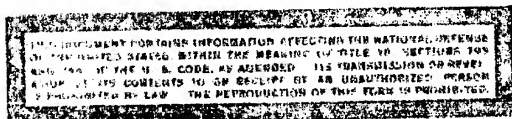
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SUBJECT Industrial Plants in Slovakia

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THIS IS UNEVALUATED INFORMATION

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1. Piesok Machinery Works, National Enterprise.

- a. Leading Personnel. The Piesok Machinery Works, National Enterprise (Strojaren Piesok, narodny podnik) at Piesok (P49/D06) is managed by (fnu) Dobrik, a zealous Communist, who had been the chief technologist of the plant until 1 May 1953 and was then appointed to his present post. He replaced (fnu) Longauer, a native of Lopy (P49/D06), who was transferred as a manager to Komarno (P48/Y76). This transfer was possibly a disciplinary measure against Longauer who is not too ardent a Party member. Cadre Officer (kadrovník) of the enterprise is (fnu) Schmidt, a native of France (P49/D06), who is known as a zealous Party member and an insidious informer. He is 66 years old, gray-haired, medium-built, and rather heavy. The Employees' Council (Svobodná rada) is headed by a native of Dvorna pod Dubicami (P49/D16) (nu) who - although a Party member - is considered a righteous, principled man of course.
- b. Production. For more than one year the Piesok Machinery Works has been predominantly concerned with the production of tank parts for the military. Other items such as passenger boats and parts for them were also included in the production program. Production targets for 1953 were originally raised 22 per cent over the 1952 output figures. Owing to an intense "socialist competition" among workshops, production teams, and individual workers, the new targets were met in the first quarter of 1953. In May the target of the previous month was raised 75 per cent and this new target was met only 96 per cent. Some unidentified items of military importance were scheduled for production under supervision of Soviet designers and controlling personnel as of July 1953, but before production was actually started the Soviet personnel was withdrawn from the plant and the prepared production papers were sent to the Ministry of General Engineering (Ministerstvo vseobecného strojenství) in Prague. After this the production of mobile and stable compressors was started: ten to fifteen pieces have been

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schedule for completion by the end of 1953. In mid-July the production of disk clutches (hlavná spojka) for tanks was to be started, but it was generally doubted whether production targets could be met because serious shortcomings came up in the production of the disks, which requires utmost accuracy. At the end of July when the chief of the plant's Work and Wage Department, (fnm) Mihal, returned from a trip to Prague, he brought the news that the scheduled clutch production was to be stopped and removed from the plant's production program, allegedly because of a shortage of essential parts, chiefly ball-bearings, which cannot be made in Czechoslovakia. The production of other tank parts was cut 50 per cent for an unknown reason. This 50 percent cut also affected the targets for the remaining production so that probably a certain number of workers and technical and administrative personnel will have to be dismissed.

- c. Socialist Competition. The "socialist competition" scheme is directed by Dr. (fnm) Kráčmar who has introduced three types of competition, viz., among production teams, foremen, and workers. Prizes for the highest labor efficiency are paid in each of these categories. Thus the three best teams receive a first prize of Kčs 3,000, a second prize of Kčs 2,000, and a third prize of Kčs 1,000 respectively. The sums in the category of foremen are Kčs 800, Kčs 600, and Kčs 400, and in the category of workers Kčs 400, Kčs 300, and Kčs 200 respectively. The prizes are distributed by a committee which is composed of the manager, of the chairman (or a representative) of the Employees' Council, and of representatives of workshop councils and workers' teams. This system of financial rewards causes much bad feeling among the workers because prizes are usually bestowed on favorites of the committee-men only. So workers say that those should work who are rewarded for it.
- d. Wages and Salaries. The average monthly wages of workers fluctuate between Kčs 1,400 and Kčs 1,600 (in new currency); white collar workers' salaries are substantially lower, about Kčs 1,000 on an average.
- e. Workers' Political Attitude. The percentage of supporters of the present regime among the workers of the plant is very tiny and apparently limited to those who have been granted special privileges. The currency reform was not hailed so enthusiastically as the official propaganda would have liked to make people believe; it was generally regarded as a robbery and intentional impoverishment of the working people. [redacted] "the workers of the plant and all of our working people are urgently awaiting liberation from that barbarous yoke".

## 2. Construction of the Chemical Plant "Priboj Blochova".

- a. A new chemical plant, to be named Priboj Blochova, is being constructed in the Horn Valley about half-way between Šalková (049/086) and Slovenská Lupča (049/086). The official purpose of the project is production of penicillin; it seems, however, that the plant after completion will be used for quite different purposes. The project is located between the road Bánska Bystrica (049/076) - Slovenská Lupča and the parallel railroad line about 660 feet north of the latter, and covers an area of about 990 x 1,640 feet. Two two-storied warehouses, each about 33 x 66 feet in size with 3 1/2-foot high matglass windows have been completed; the foundations of a reinforced-concrete production hall are under construction. There are, within the boundaries of the project, 13 temporary apartment houses for the workers employed at the construction site. A railroad spur track from the station of Slovenská Lupča, about one mile long, and a parallel road have been completed.

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- b. Personnel. The following persons are reported as holding important posts:

(fnu) Cyriak, manager of the construction; Communist  
 (fnu) Gulej, political manager; Communist  
 (fnu) Abelovský, operations controller (dispatcher); Communist  
 (fnu) Zuberec, cadre officer; Communist with 17 previous convictions for thefts etc.  
Josef Rusko, wage officer  
Ondrej Rusko, wage officer  
 (fnu) Krun, material administrator; Communist  
Ondrej Styk, chairman of the Employees' Council  
Peter Slogiarik, chairman of the Communist Party organization (zavodna organizacia).

All listed persons are loyal supporters of the Communist Party and its orders, and therefore not much in favor with the workers. The number of employees amounts to approximately 300, among whom about 100 persons are employed in white collar jobs.

3. Enlargement of Metallurgic Plant at Svätý Kríž nad Hronom. The new metallurgic plant at Svätý Kríž nad Hronom (Q49/C54) is being enlarged steadily. Very intensive preparations for the construction of new buildings were observed, e.g., the digging out of foundations. According to a rough estimate about 300 workers are occupied with these operations. The plant, including the new building sites, is about 2½ miles long, and extends on both sides of the Hron River and the railroad line Zvolen (Q49/C74) - Levice (Q49/C61) between the villages of Svätý Kríž nad Hronom and Hliník nad Hronom (Q49/C44). A strip of forest of 65 to 100 ft. in width is being cut out on the south-eastern side of the railroad line, apparently to make place for more construction work.
4. Construction of an Armament Plant at Hriňová pri Zvolene. At the northern edge of Hriňová pri Zvolene (Q49/D02) a new armament plant, covering an area of about 220 x 990 ft., has been under construction for some time. Work is making little headway; at the beginning of April 1953, 300 workers had to be dismissed, allegedly because of a shortage of money.
55. Levická kotláreň at Tladiče. The boiler factory at Tladiče (Q49/T92), which is located east of this village, about 500 ft. east of the railroad line Levice - Zvolen, is ready for production but the installation of machinery has not been completed yet. For the time being about 1,000 workers are employed at the plant. In the neighboring village of Rybníky (Q49/T92) about 30 apartment houses for about 1,000 workers are under construction. Under the basements of these houses are reinforced concrete bunkers 12½ x 12½ ft. in size with 7.9 inch thick ceilings.
6. Bučina National Enterprise at Zvolen. The Bučina national enterprise is a wood processing plant at Zvolen. It employs about 3,000 persons working in three shifts. At the beginning of April 1953 a fire, ascribed to sabotage, caused damages to the extent of 6 million Kčs.

25X1A 1.   Comment. This plant was formerly a part of the Švabica Iron Works, National Enterprise, (Švabovské železiarne, národný podnik), Podbrezová (Q49/D06).






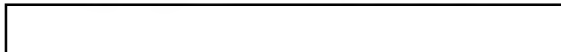
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- 25X1 2.  Comment. Each work team (strelisko) is headed by a chief foreman (hlavny majster) who has one or two assistant foremen (pomocni majstri) at his disposal.
- 25X1 3.  Comment. Equal to 1200 and 1228.57 according to the official exchange rate.
- 25X1 4.  Comment. Previous reports indicate this project was begun in 1951; thus the progress achieved is not very impressive.
- 25X1 5.  Comment. Construction of the plant was begun in 1950.
- 25X1 6.  Comment. The figure seems to be somewhat exaggerated.
- 25X1A 7. 

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